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BUSINESS STATISTICS

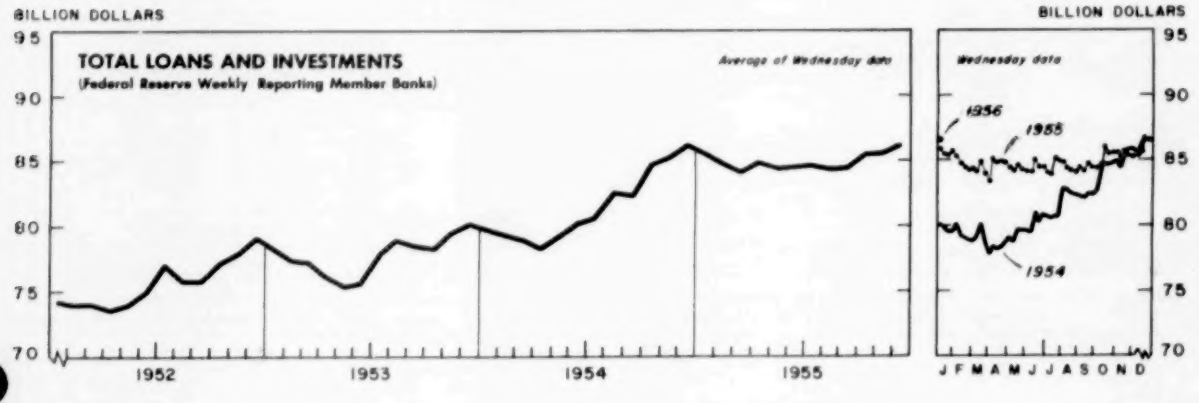
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE ☆ OFFICE OF BUSINESS ECONOMICS ☆

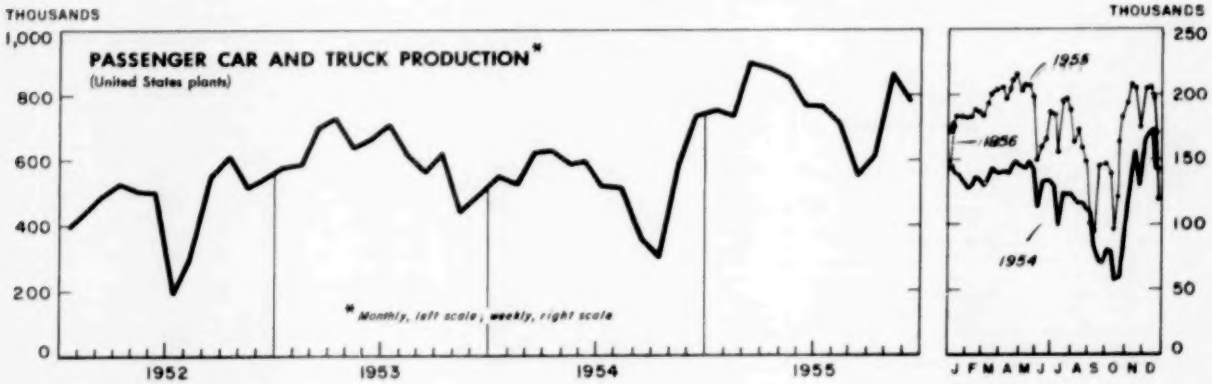
NATIONAL INCOME · BALANCE OF PAYMENTS · SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS

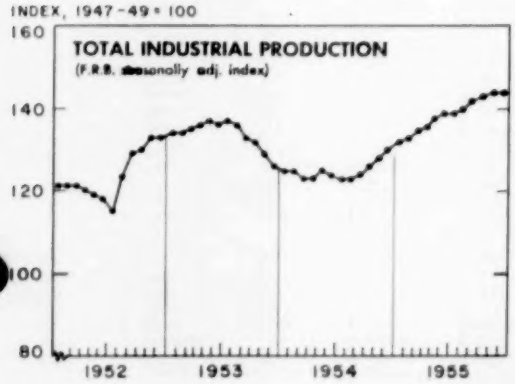
A WEEKLY SUPPLEMENT TO THE SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS

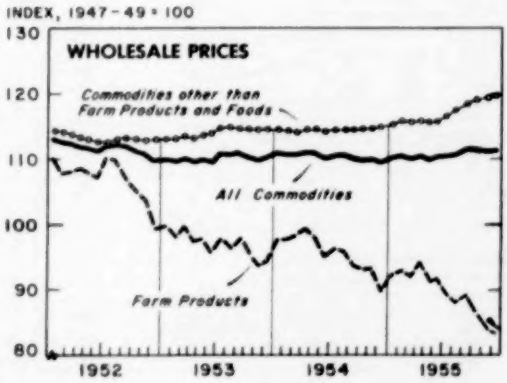
Available only with subscription to the SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS, at $3.25 annually, this Supplement provides selected weekly and monthly data subsequent to those published in the latest monthly SURVEY

SELECTED BUSINESS INDICATORS









WEEKLY BUSINESS STATISTICS[1]

ITEM	1955				1956	
	Jan. 8	Jan. 15	Dec. 24	Dec. 31	Jan. 7	Jan. 14
Commodity prices, wholesale:						
All commodities.....1947-49=100..	.....	*110.1	.....	.....	111.8	111.7
Farm products.....do....	.....	*92.5	.....	.....	85.6	84.6
Foods, processed.....do....	.....	*103.8	.....	.....	98.5	98.6
All other.....do....	.....	*115.2	.....	.....	119.8	119.9
22 commodities 2/.....do....	90.8	90.8	89.9	89.9	90.2	89.8
Department store sales.....do....	106	99	231	88	94	.....
Insured unemployment, total.....thous..	2,185	2,201	1,261	1,425	.....	.....
State programs.....do....	1,956	1,964	1,144	1,303	.....	.....
Finance:						
Currency in circulation 3/.....mil. of dol..	30,436	30,192	31,414	31,275	31,033	30,749
Federal Reserve bank credit outstanding, total 3/....do....	26,176	25,792	27,101	27,420	26,936	26,375
Member bank reserve balances 3/.....do....	19,263	19,130	19,446	19,487	19,464	19,453
Excess reserves, estimated 3/ .....do....	683	694	686	712	601	749
Federal Reserve reporting member banks in leading cities:4/						
Demand deposits, adjusted.....mil. of dol..	57,857	57,981	58,739	58,882	58,384	.....
Time deposits, except Government.....do....	21,446	21,490	21,636	21,661	21,639	.....
Loans and investments (adjusted), total.....do....	85,779	85,436	86,846	86,736	86,513	.....
U. S. Government obligations.....do....	36,573	36,513	30,260	30,122	29,957	.....
Commercial, industrial, and agr. loans (gross)...do....	22,254	22,157	26,627	26,673	26,643	.....
Real-estate loans (gross).....do....	7,182	7,217	8,158	8,147	8,135	.....
Failures, industrial and commercial.....number..	198	200	181	174	198	245
Bond yields, domestic corporate (Moody's) 3/.....percent..	3.14	3.14	3.35	3.34	3.33	3.32
Stock prices,480 stocks (Stand. & Poor's) 4/..1935-39=100..	268.6	270.5	327.9	327.5	326.7	323.8
Industrials, 420 stocks.....do....	301.8	304.2	378.4	377.4	376.9	372.8
Production:						
Bituminous coal 3/.....thous. of short tons..	1,418	1,447	1,846	1,820	1,854	.....
Electric power, by utilities.....mil. of kw.-hr..	9,833	9,928	11,614	10,751	11,057	.....
Passenger cars and trucks (Ward's).....number..	171,279	177,329	169,984	118,727	144,348	176,565
Petroleum (crude) and condensate 3/.....thous. of bbl..	6,574	6,689	6,992	6,987	7,026	.....
Steel 3/.....thous. of short tons..	1,960	2,007	2,338	2,309	2,403	2,428
Percent of capacity 5/.....	81.2	83.2	96.9	95.7	#97.6	#98.6
Freight carloadings, total.....thous. of cars..	597	645	672	575	611	.....
Miscellaneous.....do....	308	331	342	298	316	.....

1/ Data do not always cover calendar weeks. 2/ Tuesday prices. 3/ Daily average. 4/ Wednesday data. 5/ Week ended January 21, 1956: Production, 2,391 thous. short tons; operating rate, 97.1 percent. * Monthly index for January 1955. # Not comparable with 1955 rates which are based on different capacity.

MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS

ITEM	1954		1955			
	November	December	September	October	November	December
GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS						
Industrial production (FRB):						
Unadjusted, combined index.....1947-49=100..	130	128	142	147	146	p141
Manufactures.....do....	132	129	144	149	r148	p143
Durable manufactures.....do....	143	143	157	163	r163	p159
Primary metals.....do....	118	117	143	149	r149	p147
Metal fabricating (including ordnance).....do....	154	156	165	173	r174	p171
Fabricated metal products.....do....	125	124	142	145	r139	p138
Machinery.....do....	150	146	161	169	r164	p162
Transportation equipment.....do....	179	191	185	r200	215	p207
Instruments and related products.....do....	140	142	155	r158	r160	p162
Furniture and fixtures.....do....	112	112	127	r128	r128	p128
Lumber and products.....do....	123	116	136	138	r123	p112
Stone, clay, and glass products.....do....	137	134	158	161	r159	p154
Miscellaneous manufactures.....do....	139	134	149	154	r152	p149
Nondurable manufactures.....do....	120	115	130	135	132	p126
Food and beverage manufactures.....do....	110	101	122	r124	115	.....
Tobacco manufactures.....do....	*109	**111	107	109	.....	.....
Textile-mill products.....do....	102	98	106	112	112	.....
Apparel and allied products.....do....	107	99	111	117	121	.....
Leather and products.....do....	94	94	107	r109	100	.....
Paper and allied products.....do....	140	129	157	167	158	.....
Printing and publishing.....do....	125	123	131	135	135	p133
Chemicals and allied products.....do....	156	156	171	176	178	.....
Petroleum and coal products.....do....	129	129	136	r138	r140	p142
Rubber products.....do....	124	128	145	r155	150	.....
Minerals.....do....	114	114	126	126	126	p125
Coal.....do....	75	75	83	88	87	p91
Crude oil and natural gas.....do....	136	138	142	r143	144	p147
Adjusted, combined index.....do....	128	130	142	143	144	p144
Manufactures.....do....	130	131	144	145	146	p145
Durable manufactures.....do....	142	143	160	162	r161	p160
Primary metals.....do....	118	121	146	r148	r149	p151
Metal fabricating (including ordnance).....do....	152	r155	171	r173	r172	p170
Fabricated metal products.....do....	125	125	141	142	r139	p139
Machinery.....do....	148	145	163	r164	r162	p160

r/ Revised. p/ Preliminary. * September 1954 data. ** October 1954 data.

ITEM	1954 November	1954 December	1955 September	1955 October	1955 November	1955 December
GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS - Continued						
Industrial production (FRB) - Continued						
Adjusted index - Continued						
Manufactures - Continued						
Durable manufactures - Continued						
Metal fabricating (including ordnance) - Continued						
Transportation equipment.....1947-49=100..	r179	r189	205	r208	r212	p207
Instruments and related products.....do....	138	140	155	r156	r159	p161
Furniture and fixtures.....do....	108	108	125	124	r123	p123
Lumber and products.....do....	124	131	127	130	r123	p124
Stone, clay, and glass products.....do....	136	135	155	153	r157	p155
Miscellaneous manufactures.....do....	132	131	145	145	r145	p146
Nondurable manufactures.....do....	118	119	127	128	r130	p130
Food and beverage manufactures.....do....	r107	r107	r108	r111	112	.....
Tobacco manufactures.....do....	*102	**102	100	100	.....	.....
Textile-mill products.....do....	101	r102	107	r109	110	.....
Apparel and allied products.....do....	r107	107	r116	r116	121	.....
Leather and products.....do....	96	100	104	r105	102	.....
Paper and allied products.....do....	137	136	157	158	157	.....
Printing and publishing.....do....	120	121	130	131	130	p131
Chemicals and allied products.....do....	152	155	173	171	173	.....
Petroleum and coal products.....do....	127	129	135	r137	r139	p142
Rubber products.....do....	122	133	143	r147	147	.....
Minerals.....do....	113	116	122	122	125	p127
Coal.....do....	69	73	80	80	80	p87
Crude oil and natural gas.....do....	136	138	142	r143	144	p147
Consumer durables output (FRB):						
Unadjusted index, total.....do....	129	132	136	146	r159	p147
Major consumer durables.....do....	142	149	145	159	r178	p162
Autos.....do....	144	174	130	153	r212	p193
Major household goods.....do....	142	130	159	166	r150	p137
Furniture and floor coverings.....do....	108	109	124	127	124	.....
Appliances and heaters.....do....	116	108	151	145	132	.....
Radio and television sets.....do....	324	258	289	315	279	.....
Other consumer durables.....do....	100	94	115	118	r117	p111
Adjusted index, total.....do....	119	r131	154	152	r151	p147
Major consumer durables.....do....	128	r146	172	170	r167	p161
Autos.....do....	127	r167	194	196	r196	p187
Major household goods.....do....	130	r130	157	149	r143	p141
Furniture and floor coverings.....do....	103	105	123	r121	121	.....
Appliances and heaters.....do....	r115	115	r147	137	134	.....
Radio and television sets.....do....	259	242	279	259	235	.....
Other consumer durables.....do....	97	96	111	112	r114	p114
COMMODITY PRICES						
Wholesale price index, all commodities.....1947-49=100..	110.0	109.5	111.7	111.6	111.2	111.3
Farm products.....do....	93.2	89.9	89.3	86.8	84.1	83.4
Fruits and vegetables, fresh and dried.....do....	103.2	96.9	102.1	92.9	102.6	102.8
Grains.....do....	93.5	92.5	81.4	82.4	79.8	82.7
Livestock and live poultry.....do....	76.4	74.0	75.5	71.8	62.2	59.3
Foods, processed.....do....	103.8	103.5	101.5	100.2	98.8	98.2
Cereal and bakery products.....do....	116.5	116.8	114.4	114.8	r115.1	115.2
Dairy products and ice cream.....do....	108.8	108.2	104.3	105.0	105.9	107.2
Fruits and vegetables, canned and frozen.....do....	105.5	106.0	106.8	107.4	r107.7	107.8
Meats, poultry, and fish.....do....	86.3	85.2	87.5	81.6	77.8	75.3
Commodities other than farm products and foods.....do....	114.8	114.9	118.5	119.0	r119.4	119.7
Chemicals and allied products.....do....	107.0	107.0	106.0	106.5	106.6	106.7
Chemicals, industrial.....do....	117.7	117.4	118.2	118.9	119.3	119.4
Fuel, power, and lighting materials.....do....	107.4	107.5	108.0	108.0	r108.6	108.9
Petroleum and products.....do....	109.5	110.4	114.0	114.2	115.0	115.6
Furniture, other household durables.....do....	115.6	115.7	116.4	116.9	117.2	117.4
Appliances, household.....do....	109.1	109.4	106.2	106.1	r106.3	106.3
Hides, skins, and leather products.....do....	92.8	91.8	94.0	95.3	r96.4	96.7
Lumber and wood products.....do....	119.9	120.0	125.7	125.4	r125.0	125.1
Lumber.....do....	119.6	119.8	127.1	126.8	126.4	126.4
Machinery and motive products.....do....	125.3	125.7	130.0	131.4	r132.5	132.8
Electrical machinery and equipment.....do....	126.7	126.8	130.6	130.7	131.4	131.6
Motor vehicles.....do....	121.0	121.7	122.0	124.7	r126.5	126.7
Metals and metal products.....do....	129.9	129.8	141.9	142.4	r142.9	143.9
Iron and steel.....do....	135.5	135.0	145.0	145.7	146.0	147.1
Nonmetallic minerals, structural.....do....	121.8	121.8	126.4	126.8	r125.2	125.4
Pulp, paper, and allied products.....do....	116.0	115.9	120.5	122.8	123.2	123.6
Paper.....do....	126.5	126.9	131.0	131.2	131.7	133.0
Rubber and products.....do....	131.4	132.0	151.7	147.8	r150.6	151.0
Textile products and apparel.....do....	95.2	95.2	95.4	95.4	95.6	95.6
Apparel.....do....	98.4	98.4	98.6	98.7	r99.0	99.1
Tobacco manufactures and bottled beverages.....do....	121.4	121.4	121.7	121.7	121.7	121.7
CONSTRUCTION AND REAL ESTATE						
New permanent nonfarm dwelling units started:						
Unadjusted: Total, privately and publicly owned...thousands..	103.6	90.6	r114.9	107.0	90.0	75.0
Privately owned, total.....do....	103.3	89.9	r113.6	106.6	89.2	72.2
In metropolitan areas.....do....	75.4	69.0	r82.2	77.1	65.8	52.5
Publicly owned.....do....	.3	.7	1.3	.4	.8	2.8

r/ Revised. p/ Preliminary. * September 1954 data. ** October 1954 data.

ITEM	1954		1955			
	November	December	September	October	November	December
CONSTRUCTION AND REAL ESTATE - Continued						
New permanent nonfarm dwelling units started - Continued						
Seasonally adjusted at annual rate:						
Privately owned, total.....thousands..	1,393.0	1,478.0	r1,251.0	1,242.0	1,203.0	1,187.0
Construction cost index:						
The American Appraisal Co., average, 30 cities...1913=100..	598	598	614	616	618	619
Atlanta.....do....	649	649	665	665	666	666
New York.....do....	629	629	642	642	643	643
San Francisco.....do....	545	545	575	577	578	580
St. Louis.....do....	599	599	606	607	608	609
FINANCE						
Consumer credit (short- and intermediate-term):						
Total outstanding, end of month.....mil. of dol..	29,209	30,125	34,293	34,640	35,059	.....
Installment credit, total.....do....	22,014	22,467	26,699	26,963	27,247	.....
Installment credit extended and repaid:						
Unadjusted: Extended, total.....do....	2,554	3,046	3,241	3,051	3,103	.....
Repaid, total.....do....	2,492	2,593	2,697	2,787	2,819	.....
Adjusted: Extended, total.....do....	2,612	2,762	3,279	3,064	3,175	.....
Repaid, total.....do....	2,500	2,488	2,691	2,773	2,830	.....
FOODSTUFFS						
Livestock slaughter (Federally inspected):						
Calves.....thous. of animals..	694	639	710	728	700	633
Cattle.....do....	1,602	1,583	1,752	1,693	1,662	1,617
Hogs.....do....	5,841	6,119	5,144	6,144	6,857	7,324
Sheep and lambs.....do....	1,160	1,167	1,344	1,248	1,162	1,155
LUMBER AND MANUFACTURES						
Lumber (National Lumber Manufacturers Association):						
Production, total.....mil. of bd. ft..	3,154	3,085	3,543	3,431	3,111	.....
Softwoods.....do....	2,553	2,499	2,872	2,728	2,442	.....
Shipments, total.....do....	3,061	3,067	3,471	3,360	3,076	.....
Softwoods.....do....	2,473	2,479	2,759	2,605	2,360	.....
Stocks, gross (mill and concentration yards).....do....	9,222	9,241	8,526	8,597	8,618	.....
Softwoods.....do....	5,254	5,275	5,062	5,186	5,254	.....
METALS AND MANUFACTURES						
Steel ingots and steel for castings:						
Production.....thous. of short tons..	8,089	8,287	9,882	10,501	r10,247	p10,468
Percent of capacity.....	79	79	96	98	99	98
Steel products, net shipment:						
Total.....thous. of short tons..	5,240	5,449	7,378	7,217	7,248	.....
Bars: Hot rolled, all grades.....do....	577	619	739	814	758	.....
Reinforcing.....do....	140	123	186	202	194	.....
Semimanufactures.....do....	171	200	289	276	314	.....
Pipes and tubes.....do....	579	497	873	877	884	.....
Plates.....do....	398	421	619	607	639	.....
Sheets.....do....	1,857	2,054	2,394	2,452	2,499	.....
Strip: Cold rolled.....do....	126	128	148	159	161	.....
Hot rolled.....do....	144	160	172	177	183	.....
Structural shapes, heavy.....do....	331	347	426	420	436	.....
Tin plate and terneplate.....do....	261	270	588	310	300	.....
Wire and wire products.....do....	366	352	469	469	439	.....

r/ Revised. p/ Preliminary.

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